

**Grades K-12: Books about Climate
Change and Global Warming**



**Selections from the
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Conservation Training Center
Conservation Library
Shepherdstown, West Virginia
2010**

For Children Grades K-6

Cherry, Lynne. How we Know What we Know About our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming. Dawn Publications, 2008.

Ages 6-10. This volume describes where scientists look to find evidence of climate change--from changes in bird migration patterns and fruit blossom dates, to obtaining tree rings and mud cores--and especially how students and other citizen-scientists are assisting to monitor climate change, as well as what can be done to mitigate global warming.

Cole, Joanna. Magic School Bus and the Climate Challenge. Scholastic Press, 2010.

Ages 9-12. Like it or not, global warming is a hot topic, and it will affect the younger generation the most. So why not turn to the teacher kids like the most, Ms. Frizzle! Only the Friz can boil all the hoopla down to the scientific facts in a fun and informative way. Joanna Cole explains why the earth is getting warmer, and Bruce Degen's bright, action-filled illustrations make the science easy to understand and fun to learn. This team brings a new, improved understanding to climate change, engaging kids and empowering all.

Guiberson, Brenda. Earth: Feeling the Heat. Henry Holt and Company, 2010.

Ages 4-8. The earth's climate is getting hotter, and this warming affects habitats, food chains, and life cycles around the world. It also affects the habitat of every single animal on the planet. But the animals themselves can't stop the warming...who can? The answer is: PEOPLE CAN! Brenda Guiberson takes a unique look at global warming by focusing on how it affects animal environments and what kids can do to help.

Hall, Julie. A Hot Planet Needs Cool Kids: Understanding Climate Change and What you Can Do About It. Green Goat Books, 2007.

Ages 9-12. Kids, parents, and teachers will find the very latest information about the causes and effects of climate change, how people are working to reduce it, and ways kids and their families and schools can join the fight. A Hot Planet Needs Cool Kids teaches and inspires through clear and accessible writing, engaging illustrations, hands-on activities, cool and hot facts, eco-hero features, and a hopeful and empowering message to get kids involved in confronting global warming and developing their best selves through such work.

Lumry, Amanda. South Pole Penguins (Adventures of Riley). Scholastic, 2009.

Ages 4-8. Are the penguins of Antarctica getting their fill of krill, or has climate change reshaped the Antarctic food web? Riley joins Uncle Max on a voyage to the South Pole to find out! Home to whales, seals, penguins, and 90% of the world's ice, Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth. Will Riley be trapped by the fierce Antarctic winds? It's an adventure like no other as Riley learns valuable lessons about survival and cooperation.

Mayer, Mercer. It's Earth Day (Little Critter Series). Mass Market Paperback, 2008.

Ages 4-8. Little Critter is on a mission! After watching a film about climate changes at school, Little Critter decides to do his part to slow down global warming. With the help of his family and friends, Little Critter begins to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Together they learn about the importance of not wasting water or energy. Join Little Critter as he plants a tree, makes a climate control machine, and helps the polar bears.

Okimoto, Jean Davies. Winston of Churchill: One Bear's Battle Against Global Warming. Sasquatch Books, 2007.

Ages 4-8. Winston is worried because the ice of the Hudson Bay is melting sooner each year and he and his fellow polar bears have less time to hunt for food, but he comes up with an idea that will make the tourists who come to see the bears realize what is going on.

Rockwell, Anne. Why are the Ice Caps Melting? The Dangers of Global Warming. Harper Collins, 2006.

Ages 4-8. The temperature on Earth is rising. At the North Pole, ice is melting. In the oceans, the water levels are getting higher. And in some places around the world, whole rivers may even dry up. But why is this happening, and what can we do to stop it? Read and find out about the greenhouse effect, recycling, and what you can do to help fight global warming!

Simon, Seymour. Global Warming. Harper Collins, 2010.

Ages 5-10. Earth's climate has always varied, but it is now changing more rapidly than at any other time in recent centuries. The climate is very complex, and many factors play important roles in determining how it changes. Why is the climate changing? Could Earth be getting warmer by itself? Are people doing things that make the climate warmer?

Award-winning science writer Seymour Simon teams up with the Smithsonian Institution to give you a full-color photographic introduction to the causes and effects of global warming and climate change.

Thornhill, Jan. This is my Planet: The Kids' Guide to Global Warming. Maple Tree Press, 2007.

Ages 9-12. Reports of global warming's catastrophic effects are everywhere: in newspapers, on the nightly news, even on movie screens. The subject can be so overwhelming that young people are often left with the thought, What can I do? In This Is My Planet, Jan Thornhill gives young readers the tools they need to live their own lives more ecologically — and ultimately, to improve the life of the planet. The book takes a comprehensive look at climate change, beginning with basic information about how the planet works and moving through an in-depth look at human societies and three specific environments — polar, ocean, and land.

Web site Resources for Environmental Education:

<http://library.fws.gov/DEO/resource.list.pdf>

<http://library.fws.gov/booklists/booklistK-12climatechange.pdf>

For Teens Grades 7-12

Casper, Julie Kerr. Fossil Fuels and Pollution: The Future of Air Quality (Global Warming). Facts on File, 2010.

Young adult. With an examination of fossil fuels as energy sources and the world population's reliance on them, "Fossil Fuels and Pollution" outlines the connection of fossil fuels to global warming. This book explores the properties of greenhouse gases, the nature and causes of the emissions, who the largest contributors are, and the important health issues and considerations associated with them. The concepts of energy efficiency and fuel economy are also examined as well as agricultural greenhouse gases and pollution.

Delano, Marfe Ferguson. Earth in the Hot Seat: Bulletins from a Warming World. National Geographic, 2009.

Young adult. Earth in the Hot Seat is a stunning, magazine-like presentation that celebrates the Earth and clearly explains the dangers and challenges of global warming. This beautiful volume is also a showcase for National Geographic Society's environmental mission programs. Readers will enjoy many fun features, from climate connections in global hotspots, to amazing before and after snapshots, to questionnaires answered by climate scientists and celebrities.

Desonie, Dana. Climate: Causes and Effects of Climate Change (Our Fragile Planet). Chelsea House Publications, 2008.

Young adult. "Climate" is a timely new book that discusses the issue of global warming and what we can do to prevent its rise. Highly visual and written in a clear, accessible manner, this book addresses how people must use energy more efficiently, develop alternative energy sources, and lower emissions technologies.

Flannery, Tim. We Are the Weather Makers: The History of Climate Change. Candlewick, 2010.

Young adult. In this groundbreaking and essential new book, Tim Flannery argues passionately for the urgent need to address - NOW - the implications of a global climate change that is damaging all life on earth and endangering our very survival. This book is unimpeachable in its authority, deftly and accessibly written in its vision for what each of us can do to avoid catastrophe. It is a global call to arms, laying out plainly if not controversially what we know, what we think might happen, and what tools we have available to us to make a difference.

Gore, Al. An Inconvenient Truth. Rodale Books, 2006.

Young adult. The climate crisis may at times appear to be happening slowly, but in fact it is happening very quickly -- and has become a true planetary emergency. The Chinese expression for crisis consists of two characters. The first is a symbol for danger; the second is a symbol for opportunity. In order to face down the danger that is stalking the planet and move through it, listeners first have to recognize that they are facing a crisis. So why is it that public leaders' seem not to hear such clarion warnings? Are they resisting the truth because they know that the moment they acknowledge it, they will face a moral imperative to act? Is it simply more convenient to ignore the warnings? Perhaps, but inconvenient truths do not go away just because they are not seen. Indeed, when they are not responded to, their significance doesn't diminish; it grows.

Kusky, Timothy. Climate Change: Shifting Glaciers, Deserts, and Climate Belts (The Hazardous Earth). Facts on File, 2008.

Young adult. The Earth has experienced many episodes of dramatic climate change over the years. Scientists warn that the planet is currently becoming warmer at a rapid pace and there will be significant consequences for the people and ecosystems. How humans respond to global warming is crucial for their survival amid the growing threat of moving coastal cities, migrating crop belts, changing climate zones, and varying river conditions. A thorough examination of the climate history of the past million years may help predict and alter the course for the future.

Lloyd, Saci. The Carbon Diaries 2015. Holiday House, 2008.

Young adult. It's the year 2015, a time when global warming has begun to ravage the environment. In response, the United Kingdom becomes the first country to mandate carbon rationing-a well-intentioned plan that goes tragically awry. When her carbon debit card arrives in the mail, sixteen-year-old Laura is just trying to pass her exams, manage her eco punk band, and catch the attention of her gorgeous classmate Ravi. But as multiple natural disasters strike and Laura's parents head toward divorce, her world spirals out of control.

Sivertsen, Linda. Generation Green: The Ultimate Teen Guide to Living an Eco-Friendly Life. Simon Pulse, 2008.

Young adult. You are generation green! We get it; we know you're tired of being told everything you *can't* do and everything you're supposed to give up. So we wrote a book about what you *can* do because we love sharing the cutting-edge things we've learned and are trying. Like anything else, it's a process. The more you know, the easier it gets. Thankfully, being green is now both hot and hip, and can become a natural part of teen life. Just in time.

Spalding, Frank. Catastrophic Climate Change and Global Warming (Doomsday Scenarios: Separating Fact from Fiction). Rosen Central, 2010.

Young adult. Much of the Earth's rainforests, which once helped to slow the greenhouse effect by absorbing the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide have been destroyed to make room for farmland. Global warming is spiraling out of control. A tipping point has been reached, and Earth's climate has been irrevocably damaged. Many life forms are threatened. In fact, human beings are now officially an endangered species. Is this nightmare scenario our destiny?

Wheeler, Benjamin. It's All Connected: A Comprehensive Guide to Global Issues and Sustainable Solutions. Facing the Future: People and the Planet, 2005.

Young adult. "It's All Connected" is the ultimate resource for teaching about global issues and sustainability in our ever changing and complex world. It can be used as a stand-alone text for a global issues course or as a supplemental text for other classes, including social studies, science, environmental studies, and ESL. "It's All Connected" provides a thorough overview of global issues, as well as in-depth explorations of particular topics, debates, and solutions.

Web site Resources for Environmental Education:

<http://library.fws.gov/DEO/resource.list.pdf>

<http://library.fws.gov/booklists/booklistK-12climatechange.pdf>